

A Level Chemistry

Why study Chemistry at A Level?

Chemistry is not all about blowing things up, although that is included!

At A Level, it becomes more about how matter and energy behave and interact with each other; from molecular changes in the eye responding to light that allow you to see to fabricating and testing compounds to produce lifesaving drugs.

Chemistry remains one of the most vigorous and demanding of A Levels, building skills in the application of mathematics, spatial awareness and logical puzzles – are you up for the challenge?

What will I study?

Topics covered include: the mysteries of atomic structure; using the mole; explaining electronic structures and an introduction to the quantum world; understanding bonding/structures and chemical reactions.

Practical chemistry: developing skills; carrying out titrations; the wonders of organic chemistry; alkanes/alkenes; developing polymers; alcohols, esters and smells in chemistry; halogenoalkanes; analysing substances; energy changes; rates of reactions; equilibrium and industry; global warming and the greenhouse effect; the ozone layer and depletion and green chemistry.

Assessment

100% examined.

Paper 1: Written exam of 1 hour 45 minutes in length consisting of short and long answer questions.

Paper 2: Written exam of 1 hour 45 minutes in length consisting of short and long answer questions.

Paper 3: Written exam of 2 hours 30 minutes in length consisting of multiple choice, short and long answer questions.

Study trips, visits and events

A ChemLab session in July of year 12 - an opportunity to experience the amazing university standard laboratories at the University of Bristol, carrying out an organic synthesis and enjoying lectures from the university staff.

A lecturer from Bristol University will visit us and give a talk on chemistry at A Level, with practical demonstrations that you wouldn't normally see in the classroom.

Subject entry requirements

6-6 in Combined Science or 6 in Chemistry, plus 6 in Maths.